

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A photographic processor comprising:
a circular member comprising a first wall, a second wall and a side wall connecting the first wall to the second wall and extending around a perimeter of the circular member; and
a flexible shield member wrapped around an outer surface of said side wall, wherein a processing path for photographic material to be processed is defined between at least the outer surface of said side wall and an inner surface of said flexible shield member.
2. A photographic processor according to claim 1, further comprising:
a solution tray positioned below said circular member, said solution tray being adapted to hold processing solution therein and being positioned such that at least a portion of the outer surface of the side wall and a corresponding portion of the flexible shield member is immersible in solution provided in said tray.
3. A photographic processor according to claim 2, further comprising:
a support member adapted to rotatably support said circular member in a manner in which said portion of the outer surface of the side wall and said corresponding portion of the flexible shield member are immersed in the solution in said tray, wherein the circular member is rotatable to rotate sections of photographic material located between the outer surface of said side wall and the flexible shield member into and out of said solution tray for processing of the photographic material.
4. A photographic processor according to claim 1, further comprising:
an assembly adapted to insert photographic material into said processing path and remove photographic material from said processing path;

said assembly comprising:

a support for a cartridge which holds a first type of photographic material therein; and

a pair of rollers adapted to at least insert a second type of photographic material into said processing path.

5. A photographic processor according to claim 4, wherein said assembly further comprises:

a first driving member which cooperates with said cartridge to thrust the first type of photographic material in said cartridge into said processing path defined between said outer surface of said side wall and the inner surface of said flexible shield member for processing; and

a second driving member which cooperates with said pair of rollers to rotate said pair of rollers and drive the second type of photographic material into said processing path defined between said outer surface of said side wall and the inner surface of said flexible shield member for processing.

6. A photographic processor according to claim 5, wherein:

said first driving member is further adapted to drive the processed first type of photographic material from said processing path back into said cartridge, and said second driving member is further adapted to drive the processed second type of photographic material from said processing path.

7. A photographic processor according to claim 4, wherein said assembly further comprises:

a clamping portion located on a first side of said assembly which clamps onto a first end of said flexible shield member, wherein a second end of said flexible shield member is attached to an opposing second side of said assembly.

8. A method of processing photographic material, the method comprising the steps of:

wrapping a flexible shield member around an outer surface of a circular member, at least a portion of said circular member being adapted to be immersed in a processing solution provided in a solution tray;

inserting a photographic material to be processed into a processing path defined between the outer surface of said circular member and an inner surface of said flexible shield member; and

rotating the circular member so as to immerse sections of the photographic material in said processing path into said processing solution to process the photographic material.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said wrapping step comprises the step of attaching opposite ends of the flexible shield member on an assembly mounted in the vicinity of the outer surface of the circular member.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said attaching step comprises clamping at least one of said opposite ends of said flexible shield member on one side of said assembly.